

# RUSSIA EXPELS

## YANK

CPYRGHT

## TOURIST

CPYRGHT

## AS CIA MAN

Called Tool of CIA

## Russ Oust U. S. Tourist

MOSCOW, Sept. 30 (UP)

Soviet officials have arrested an American tourist for allegedly distributing propaganda for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and expelled him from the country, a Russian newspaper said today.

The Daily Trust (Labor) identified the American as Nicholas H. Riegg, graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. It said Mr. Riegg "confessed" to criminal behavior during visits to the Soviet Union in September and August and September, 1966.

DBOUTFUL

U.S. embassy officials said they were looking into the allegations. They said they had not immediate information on Mr. Riegg or his alleged confession and expulsion, but had doubt on the authenticity of the charges.

"I doesn't seem likely that if the Soviets had really captured a man who they were sure was a CIA agent they would let him go just like that," a spokesman said.

While Trust did not explain the circumstances in which Mr. Riegg was picked up, Tass said

Continued

CPYRGHT

he "was caught red-handed in the Ukrainian city of Kharkov." Tass gave no further details.

The labor newspaper published the text of an alleged confession and appeal for mercy by Mr. Reigg:

"I realize that my destiny depends only on the generosity of Soviet people.

"I will follow the instructions of your authorities. I will either leave the Soviet Union immediately or will take my punishment."

Trud said Mr. Reigg met with U.S. Second Secretary Donald R. Lesh shortly before Mr. Lesh was expelled for "activities incompatible with his diplomatic status."

**CALLED 'SYMPATHETIC'**

Trud said Mr. Reigg had originally sought to come to the Soviet Union as a student at the University of Leningrad, but had been rejected despite an application in which he presented himself as "sympathetic" to the Marxist point of view.

The paper said Mr. Reigg then was instructed by the CIA "to distribute anti-Soviet literature, to slander the structure of the country and to gather partial information" during his 1964 visit as a tourist.

The paper said he was briefed at that time by Nina Hansh, a CIA agent in Stockholm.

It claimed that Mr. Reigg reported back to her that he could sell clothes packed with propaganda pamphlets and books to anti-social elements in Russia. He also allegedly recommended that foreigners with a knowledge of Russian be used to spread propaganda.

The paper said Mr. Reigg later tried to get into Minsk University in August, 1966, and even suggested that Minsk University send a man to the University of Pennsylvania on an "exchange program."

SEP 30 1966